(a) the number of villages electrified in Ghazipur district of Uttar Pradesh so far;

(b) the number of Harijan colonies in these electrified villages;

(c) whether there is any scheme to electrify more villages of Ghazipur district in 1991-92; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). As reported by Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board, all inhabited villages, including 721 Harijan Bastis, in the Ghazipur district of Uttar Pradesh have been electrified by October, 1991.

Disappearance of Fishermen off Rameshwaram Coast

1614. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME ARRAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some fishermen are missing off the coast of Rameshwaram during the month of September, 1991; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to trace them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Representation from Bombay Telephone Users' Association

1615. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from Bombay Telephone Users' Association, Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Association has requested for the representation of Consumers' Organisations on the Committee set up by the Department for review of the Indian Telegraphy Act.

(c) Full-time representation of such organisations on this Committee is not considered necessary as the Committee can always invite the opinion/suggestion from eminent people/organisations for consideration.

International Conference on Ageing

1616. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Conference on Ageing will be holding its world convention in India;

(b) if so, whether the Government of India propose to undertake special programme for the welfare of the Aged; and

(c) the details of the proposed help by

Government of India to International Conference on Ageing?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The Indian Federation on Ageing has proposed to hold a Global Conference on the ' Changing Status and Emerging Roles of Elderly in the 21st Century from 30th September 1992 to 2 October, 1992.

(b) Government of India is assisting some voluntary organisations for the welfare of the aged.

(c) A grant of Rs. 1 lakh has been sanctioned for organising the Conference.

Pending Pension Case of Freedom Fighters

1617. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN:
SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters who have sought Central Government pension, State-wise;

(b) the number of claims rejected and the number of claims accepted after verification and claims of Freedom fighters pending as on September 30, 1991, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay in disposing of the claims of the freedom fighters; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to dispose of pending claims and the likely date thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b). A tabular statement is attached.

(c) and (d). All the claims for freedom fighter pension received under the Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, before the prescribed date i.e. 31.3.82, have been disposed of. The pending claims relate to applications received recently. Efforts are made to dispose them of at the earliest.